

ROCK RIDGE DEBATE TEAM EXPECTATIONS & TEAM POINTS

The expectations outlined below are included in the team contract you are asked to read and sign as part of your registration materials.

Practices: Rock Ridge debaters are expected to attend all practices (see the separate practice schedule), although you may miss up to three practices per quarter (quarters 1-3 only). **If you know you must be absent from a practice, please e-mail your captains at least a day in advance.** Students who participate in an athletic or other after-school activity for a portion of the season (fall or spring sports only) may be excused from most practices for a pre-determined amount of time as approved in advance by the event coach.

Tournament Registration: All debaters must register for tournament competition with their coach by the Thursday prior to the week of the tournament (sometimes even earlier - see the tournament schedule). Tournament entry is at the discretion of the event captain(s) and coaches and depends on judge availability and student preparedness.

Debaters who intend to register for competition must compete in their assigned mock debate in order to participate in the corresponding tournament. Debaters who register for a tournament must attend all scheduled practices in the week leading up to the tournament. If there is a schedule conflict, debaters must be sure to make other arrangements to follow up with their coach and the event captain(s) as needed. **Debaters will be automatically dropped from a tournament if they do not meet these conditions.**

Competition: Debaters are encouraged to compete in at least two regular season tournaments (WACFL I-V) in their primary event area (you may compete in more than one area). Post-season WACFL and VHSL competition is open to debaters who have qualified at regular-season WACFL tournaments or who have been selected by the coaches in the case of VHSL competition, which has very limited entries per school. Invitational tournaments are open to select experienced debaters by coach invitation only.

Sportsmanship: Rock Ridge debaters are ambassadors for our school community at all debate events. You are expected to practice good sportsmanship with all students and adults participating in debate and abide by VHSL sportsmanship standards (please read these on the www.vhsl.org web site). **Additionally, any violation of the Rock Ridge High School Honor Code can result in immediate dismissal from the team.**

TEAM POINTS - These points can be earned toward team recognitions and letters. **Debaters must earn a minimum of 10 team points per year in order to be recognized at the awards ceremony and to receive an invitation to return to the team the following year. Debaters must be selected by the event coach in order to return as JV/Varsity PF or LD debaters. These returning spots will be limited.**

Tournament Competition:**

Regular season tournament – WACFL or invitational (5 pts. Novice/JV, 10 pts. Varsity)

Congress – 5 pts. lower half of chamber, 10 pts. upper half of chamber

VHSL Regional or WACFL Metro Final tournament (10 pts. JV, 15 pts. Varsity/Open)

VHSL State – 20 pts. NCFL Nationals – 50 pts.

**points are doubled if you medal or qualify, tripled if you take first place in division/chamber (exception is nationals – that’s a “flat rate” for just making it there)

Team Service:

Officer/Captain: 20 pts.

Tournament Host: 10 pts. (involves running a hosting committee)

Tournament volunteering: 1 pt. per hour of service (including parent service) – up to 5 points per tournament maximum (exception will be made for debaters who volunteer at NCFL Nationals in May 2023 – where you can earn up to 20 points for volunteering)

Judge: 5 pts. per tournament if you secured a judge for that tournament

Recognitions (announced at team awards ceremony in the spring):

10 points per season = certificate of achievement and invitation to return next season

25 points per season = certificate of excellence

100 points overall = varsity letter (as long as the team member is in good standing)

Varsity letter holders may earn a service bar (one per season) for each additional 50 points earned in each subsequent season following receipt of their letter (max of one bar per year)